



# VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A H E A D O F T H E C U R V E

April 10, 2013

Dear Parents or Guardians of Second Grade Students,

As we near the end of the current school year, we want to advise you of an important change planned for the 2013 – 2014 school year and how you can ask questions and weigh in about these plans. The school division intends to implement a standards-based report card next year. What does that mean? Rather than providing you with single grade assessments of your child's performance in each subject area, a standards-based report card will share specific feedback about your child's progress toward the skills and understanding of each standard in the subject area. This is important because it will better identify where your child is excelling in a subject as well as where he or she might need additional assistance.

To measure a student's performance against a standard, proficiency scores will be used. Beginning in 2011-12, four schools field tested standards-based grading and reporting. Both teachers and parents in these schools indicated this approach provided a more accurate picture of student performance. The proficiency scores that were used then and will be used divisionwide next year are:

**N: Novice – Not making expected progress toward proficiency**

**DP: Developing Proficiency – Beginning to grasp and apply key concepts, processes and skills**

**P: Proficient – Regularly grasps and applies key concepts, processes and skills with limited errors**

**AP: Advanced Proficient – Consistently demonstrates proficiency: grasps, applies and extends key concepts, processes and skills**

For your convenience, we have provided a sample of both types of report cards to help you understand the differences between the two approaches. Shaded boxes indicate that a standard was not assessed for a grade. We are hopeful the benefits of the standards-based report card will be apparent.

## TRADITIONAL REPORT CARD

MARKING PERIOD	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>
<b>MATHEMATICS</b> Teacher	2	3	3	
Understands numbers, the ways of representing whole numbers and rational numbers and the relationships that exist among these numbers and number systems	X			
Understands the meanings of addition and subtraction and computes using whole numbers				
Understands measurable attributes of objects and events, units of measure, and systems of measurement				
Applies appropriate techniques and tools to determine measurements				
Analyzes characteristics and properties of plane and solid geometric shapes				
Formulates questions and constructs answers by collecting, organizing, and displaying data				
Understands and applies basic concepts of probability				
Understands patterns (repeating and growing) and relations				
Represents and analyzes mathematical situations and structures using algebraic symbols		X	X	

## STANDARDS-BASED REPORT CARD

MARKING PERIOD	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>
<b>MATHEMATICS</b> Teacher	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>
Understands numbers, the ways of representing whole numbers and rational numbers and the relationships that exist among these numbers and number systems	DP			
Understands the meanings of addition and subtraction and computes using whole numbers		P	P	
Understands measurable attributes of objects and events, units of measure, and systems of measurement			P	
Applies appropriate techniques and tools to determine measurements			P	
Analyzes characteristics and properties of plane and solid geometric shapes	P			
Formulates questions and constructs answers by collecting, organizing, and displaying data				
Understands and applies basic concepts of probability				
Understands patterns (repeating and growing) and relations	AP	AP		
Represents and analyzes mathematical situations and structures using algebraic symbols		DP	DP	